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[PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

VOLUME 2---NO. 8.

ABBEVILLE C. H., SOUTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 1, 1854.

WHOLE NUMBER 60.

POETRY.

WRITTEN FOR THE INDEPENDENT PRESS. The old Elm Tree's Shade. The dear old Elms Tree's sranching shade, Where once the climbing grapevine hung, Still pours her cool touch along the glade, O'er which the mock-bird gaily sung, Her awning spreads; still airs the cliff, As though our sport-days ne'er had fled; The stream still glides along as if

But changeful days have come and gone Since oft we quaffed your friendly shade, And on our hearts the mellow tone Of sadness has its image laid. Grand tree! when 'neath your wide spread

Our parting tear had ne'er been shed.

bower. I feel your kindly love for me, But sigh with pain the long fled hour, My dearest joy to visit thee.

No more the grapevines clasp your arms, That pendent neath your boughs once hung, No more the notes, the warbled charms, The mock-bird 'mid the boughs once sung. The vines are dead, the bird has flown-

is with sincere regret that I am constrained to oppose its passage. We are asked to donate alternate sections of this public lands (which are no less a part of the common treasure of alternate sections of the common treasure of the treasury) on either side of a line yet to be determined, to some joint stock company yet to be created, for the purpose of aiding in the construction of a railroad and telegraphic communication from the city of San Francisco to some point, yet to be located, on the Mississipportiver, any where between the thirty-seventy parallel of north latticed and the boundary of the sections of opinion to different of fifteen miles on either side of the road. From the Mississipportiver, any where between the thirty-seventy line of Mexico. We are asked to extend the sections of opinion to different of fifteen miles on either side of the road. From the Mississipportiver, and the section of the opinion of the section of the section of the opinion of the section of the s

common territory and "other property of the United States, ashall not be so construed "as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular State," the door for local internal improvements, the wildest and most extravagant, is thrown wide open, and almost resistless temptations offered to a coalition of all the pecuniary resources of the Government, and to the oppressuon of the smaller States. Unlimited acquisitions of more territory, whether by conjuest or purchase, would find zealous advocates in the very men who would profess to be restrained by constitutional scruples, from putting their hands into the Federal Treasury for the benefit of their respective States.

This interpretation of the power of Congress over the public lands is corroborated by the language of every deed of cession of lands within the territory, as eeded to the General Government. Virginia edd her public lands in 1784, under the endition which appears in the following extract from her act of cession:

"That all the lands within the territory, as eeded to the United States and not reserved for, nor appropriated to, any of the beforementioned purposes, or disposed of in bounties of in the officers and soldiers of the American army, shall be considered as a common fund for the use and benefit of such of the United States and not reserved sections is uniformly fallacing but her shall be considered as a common fund for the use and benefit of such of the United States and boun fide disposed of for that purpose, and the United States of the Government of the United States of the Common use and boun fide disposed of for that purpose, and the United States of the claims (to lands the United States of the claims (to lands) as a proprietor; and the argument in reference to the united States of the claims (to lands) as a proprietor of the Junder Consideration or Federal Alliance of said States of the claims (to lands) as a proprietor of the Junder Consideration or Federal Alliance of said States of the claims (to lands) as sould be

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